



An exciting gallop across the field.

# FOUR FOOTED POLO PLAYERS OF TUESDAY'S BIG MATCH

It Is Worth a Journey of Many Miles to See These Active Little Ponies, Who, by Speed, Strength and Courage No Less Wonderful Than Their Master's, Earn Their Share of the Applause

YOUR true polo player is a cosmopolitan of the cosmopolitans, but not more so than the game little horse he rides—the fleet, handy, four footed champion that will be seen in action on Tuesday in the battle for a trophy hardly less renowned than the America's cup. If the two legged player stirs the stands to surges of applause for clever and daring play, the four legged player earns his share of praise through wonderful bursts of speed, sharp turns at incredible angles and courage no less remarkable than that of his master.

For every player who enters the big game there will be in action anywhere from four to seven ponies, and for the first time in the history of these stirring cup matches the international feature will extend to a large extent to the strings of mounts, for the British Empire, even to far off Australia, has been ransacked in the fleetest and hardest examples of horseflesh ever bred by a Britisher, while America in the search for the native bred has not failed to call upon the resources of Hawaii.

There will be seasoned veterans, of course, on both sides. The stands two years ago resounded to the praises of Pigeon I and Pretty Boy, the two swift grays ridden by Capt. Noel Edwards, Energy, Capt. Hardress Lloyd's smashing fine Irish chestnut mare; Capt. Cheape's Nutmeg and Exellite, and Capt. Wilson's Lord George; Lawrence Waterbury's Cinderella, J. M. Waterbury's Irish brown mare Acushla, H. P. Whitney's American brown gelding Conover, and Devereux Milburn's big black gelding Tenby, but the coming matches will doubtless see the crowning of new four footed favorites.

American players have denied that they were better mounted two years ago than their English visitors, and the Britishers on the other hand said

doubtful if more than twenty-five will really get into action; but in this twenty-five will be found newcomers that are expected to make names for themselves.

Throughout the early practice season when the candidates for the American team were getting into their stride and working up fast combination play the new mounts from Hawaii and Los Angeles showed up with such promise that the horsemen of Long Island are still talking about it on the eve of the big match. The new ponies were added to the old string in and around the Meadow Brook Club at Westbury under the care of Fitzpatrick and of Jimmy Rowe, James R. Keene's old trainer when racing was at its height in this country, and the veteran trainers expressed themselves as more than pleased with the performances of the Westerners and the islanders.

The newcomers, the probable stars of the big game, are all big and husky, real weight carriers, and as nearly as possible three-quarters to seven-eighths thoroughbred. They fitted in nicely with the string of English, Irish and

son of the Meadow Brook Club, substitute on the international team two years ago and this year, made a pilgrimage to the coast. He played many games there and went on to Hawaii, getting plenty more action in the island. He was so impressed with the spirit of the players, and with the quality of ponies of which the East knew little, that he obtained the permission of the owners to send on the pick of the mounts for use in the elimination trials at Meadow Brook and Cedarhurst.

Among the most prominent contributors from the coast section was Carleton Burke of Los Angeles. This owner's string, in conjunction with the other California mounts, came East under the care of John Webber, one of the ablest and most experienced trainers on the Pacific coast.

Subsequently, Carry the News, owned by Dr. Baldwin of Hawaii and ridden by his brother, Frank Baldwin, of the Hawaiian team; Helen C., owned by W. F. Dillingham, and Dandy, owned by Frank Baldwin, were shipped to Westbury. All these mounts are home products, seven-eighths thoroughbred, and born and schooled on the islands. All these smart animals have attracted attention among horsemen from the very start, but up to the very last days before the match nothing had been heard of them in print.

Perhaps the star of the lot, and a probable mount for Harry Payne Whitney at some stage of Tuesday's big match, is Carry the News. This crack animal is a light chestnut gelding with white face and white feet. He should be easy to follow in action even by the man who is not up in horseflesh. Helen C., a bay mare with a white star, is fast and possessed of remarkable stamina, while Dandy, sent on by Frank Baldwin, is an upstanding chestnut gelding that should be heard from at some stage of the game.

The star of Carleton Burke's string is probably Tipperary Boy, a chestnut gelding with four white feet, and both

Great Britain, France, Australia, India and Argentina Ransacked in Search of Mounts for English Team—Americans Will Have Sixty of the Best Ponies Obtainable From Which to Draw

powerful and fast. The spectator would do well also to watch for Scotty, a chestnut gelding with a white star and two white hind legs. Natalia is another of the California string. She is a chestnut mare a trifle light for heavy riders but close to perfection for a fairly light player. Mr. Burke recently refused \$2,200 for this pony. Just now she is not for sale at any price. Teddy, a brown gelding with one white hind foot, is another of the best of the Californians.

Mr. Stevenson was not the only Eastern polo player who searched the West for new and promising mounts, for Thomas Le Boutillier also made a little journey to the homes of perhaps-to-be famous ponies. In the course of his travels on the coast he picked up in Merido and Waldrew two promising

animals that were promptly added to the American string, and it is quite within the range of probabilities that the former will get a chance to play in the big matches.

As soon as the Hawaiian and Californian ponies were promised for the Eastern elimination trials there wasn't money enough for miles around to buy them, and they were safe assets to the Americans. Of course the best mounts used by the American team two years ago will still be available in the big matches, but it is a safe guess that 60 per cent. of the newcomers will get a chance to show what they can do under heavy fire.

All these newcomers show in their build the wonderful advance that has been made in polo in the course of the years, for it is safe to say that they outclass for strength and ability to carry weight many of the famous mounts of the days when the offside rule was in vogue. There was a time when the little Arabs, Mexicans, Argentines and Barbies were sturdy enough to carry better than the average team to victory after victory. They were easy to ride, far easier than the powerful animals of today, their stride was smooth and it was not difficult from their backs to make the necessary strokes with reasonable accuracy. But in recent years the

latter by the Maharajah of Cooh Dehar.

The Indian princes are always willing to pay well for well schooled mounts, but the shoe is rapidly being pulled on the other foot, and although there is only one pony in the present string brought direct from India, Englishmen are doing a deal of buying in that famous polo country. Australia stands well up on the list in the stables of the British challengers, and the Englishmen have not even hesitated to turn to France to fill out the list, for Pole Star, a bay gelding, is a French thoroughbred. This crack pony combines so much handiness with blazing speed as to be ideal for the use of Capt. Rison at No. 3.

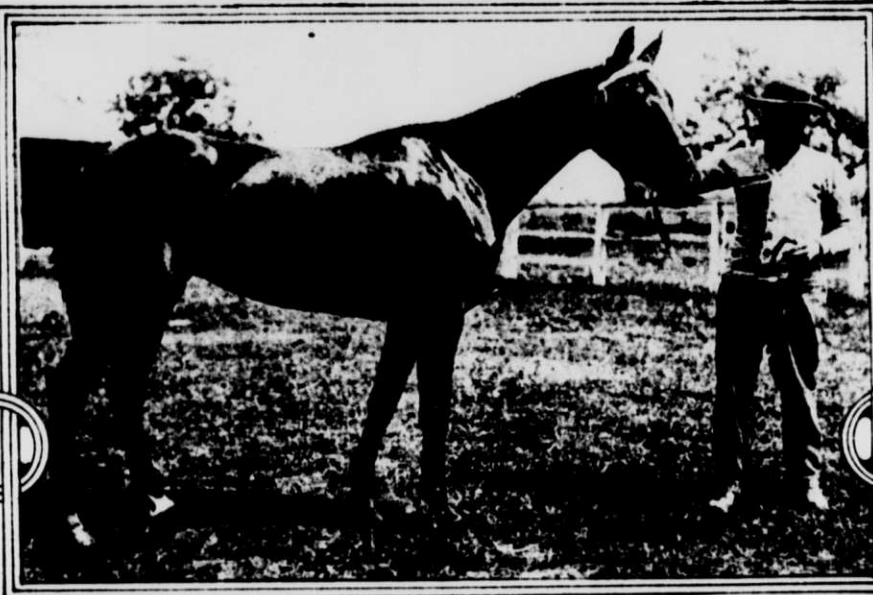
The English string is made up of animals from Great Britain, France, Australia, India and the Argentine, with a few from California; but the main body of it is so very un-American as to thoroughly to emphasize the international feature.

This year's English string is fairly well off in the way of first class veterans. Six of the present outfit saw plenty of action in the stirring contests of two years ago, and three of these, Energy, Pretty Boy and Pigeon I, did for more than their share of the work. There is probably no more courageous pony on the field than Energy, Capt. Hardress Lloyd's Irish chestnut mare. Seldom has better horsemanship than that displayed by Capt. Lloyd been witnessed on the polo field, and the superb Energy seems to have been born to play at No. 3, where her beautiful quick turns made the English combination a very real menace throughout the matches. Oddly enough Energy is both a sterling animal in actual play and unbeatable in the show ring, at Hurlingham and elsewhere. In the long run it was the very evident native courage of the pony that caught the crowd in the last international, and history is likely to repeat itself on Tuesday.

Pretty Boy and Pigeon I, ridden by Capt. Noel Edwards two years ago, are two other favorites with the American crowd, whether versed in the game or not. The speed of these two, not to mention their stamina, was so plainly evident that a man who knew nothing



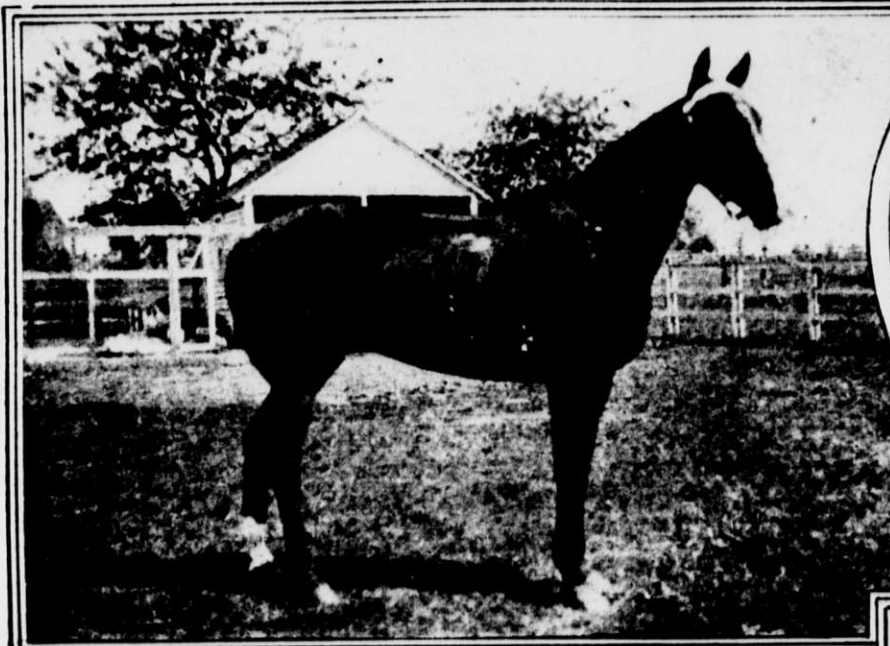
Scotty From Carleton Burke's Los Angeles String



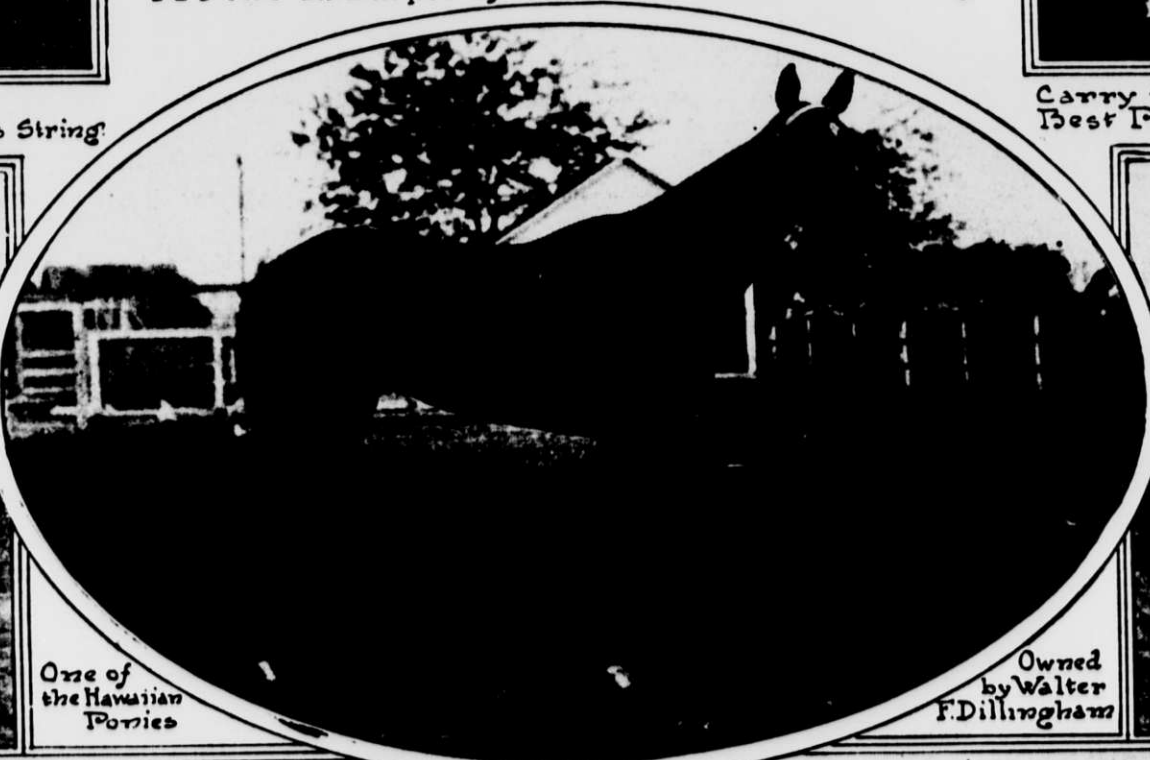
Dandy A Fine Example of the Hawaiian Polo Pony



Carry the News. One of the Best Ponies in the Hawaiian String



Teddy One of Carleton Burke's California Ponies

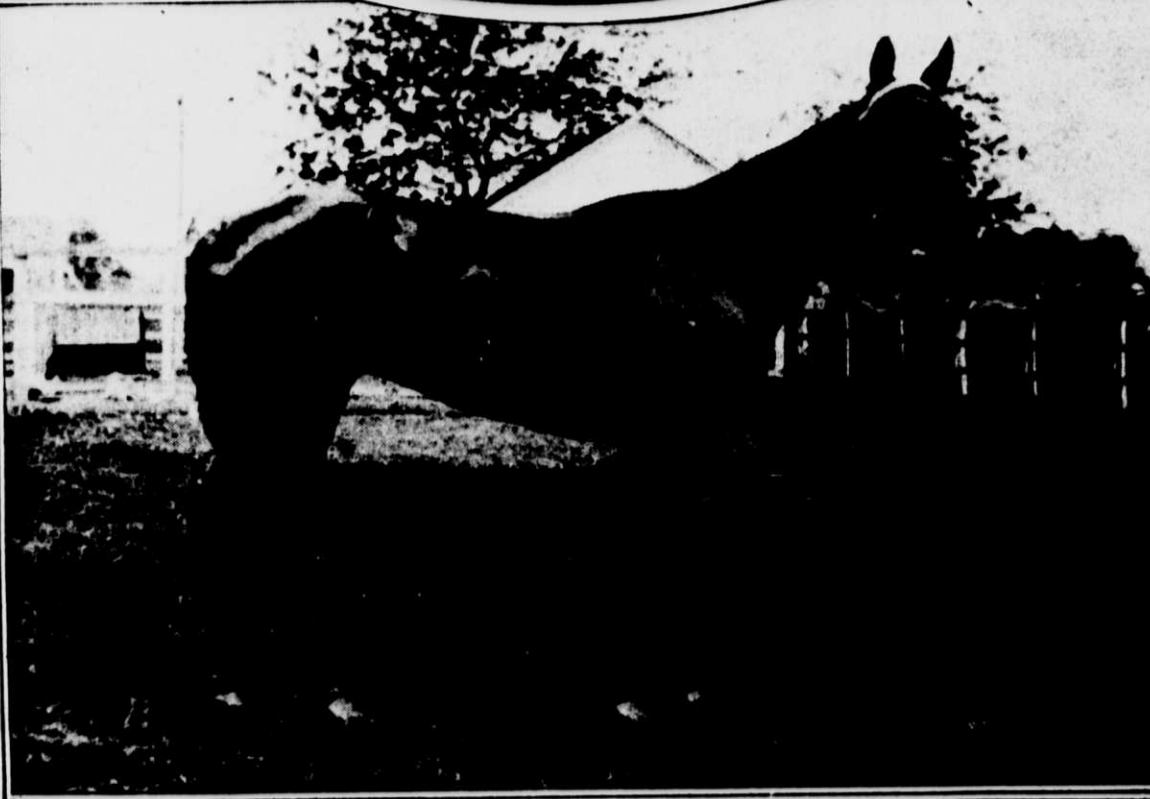


One of the Hawaiian Ponies

Owned by Walter F. Dillingham



Tipperary Boy. A Lively Member of the Los Angeles Contingent



Natalia. One of the Most Promising of the Los Angeles String

after their defeat that they were rather short of good animals, but both teams this year seem to be fairly well satisfied on that score. Augmented by loans from private stables of less distinguished polo men, the Duke of Westminster has sent over as fine a string this time as one would care to see, and while some disappointment has been expressed over the failure to include the brown gelding Unknown, picked up in the course of a skirmish on the Indian frontier, the challengers would seem to have nothing of which to complain. It took the Englishmen two years of patient and thoroughgoing effort to get the present string together, and private owners have helped out in more than usually loyal fashion.

Hardly less far reaching has been the hunt of the Americans for mounts that would stand the gruelling and keep the pace under a team of more than usual weight, with the result that the native born pony figures far more extensively than ever in the past. The American team will have sixty of the best ponies to be found under the Stars and Stripes upon which to draw, although it is

American veterans, and while lacking so much experience in hard matches, they often a little more than held their own when it came to a showdown affair. The patriotic spirit of Western and Hawaiian owners in coming to the aid of the nation at this time has been one of the remarkable features of the season of preparation for battle with the British challengers, and that the new string has seen some fast play may be inferred from the fact that while the best of the Hawaiian players is handicapped at 3 goals, he is only four goals behind the American substitutes. The disparity, so far as the experience of the ponies in action goes, is, therefore, not as great as might appear on the surface. The international match is the ultimate test, and the best judges believe that the new mounts will rise to the occasion under the spur of the "crowded hour" just as human players sometimes do.

It was in the winter that the American team, already possessed of excellent mounts, made one last scouting of the West, so that nothing in the way of handy horseflesh might be overlooked, and to that end Malcolm Steven-

pace of the game has increased—increased to the pace of the Indian game—and the shock of collision has become heavier, so that nowadays there is far more than smooth galloping to be considered.

Speed must be combined with strength. The ponies have become steadily heavier and stronger, and whereas in the old days the pony measuring 14.2, as is the case now for show purposes, was common, he is very rare in the modern game. In adaptability the ponies have kept pace with the changing tactics of the game. Under the present rules the burden on a pony playing at No. 3 is perhaps not vastly greater, since handiness counts heavily here, but in the other positions, where wide, free galloping has become the order of the day, supreme speed is at a premium.

With the increasing demands on the ponies and the greater frequency of international matches the price of these four footed stars has been steadily rising, and it would not be surprising if at the close of the coming matches the record would be surpassed. The top price for years has been \$3,750, paid for the famous Sailor, and the almost equally famous Policy. The former was bought by the late Lord Kensington of the Second Life Guards, and the

about horses could have picked them out for the stars they were. Like Energy, Pretty Boy has been a three period mount, but it is unlikely the plucky gray will be worked hard this time, for the English string is both larger and stronger, apparently than it was the last time the Britishers came cup hunting.

Another veteran is Tiger, so cleverly handled by Capt. Leslie St. Clair Cheape, while Nutmeg and Machine, the former a chestnut mare also ridden by Capt. Cheape, the latter a handsome chestnut gelding ridden by Capt. Lloyd two years ago, make up the list of old timers. The representative from India is Kilkenny, a bay gelding brought to England by Capt. Barrett.

Aeolus, one of Capt. Cheape's ponies, and loaned by him to the English team hailed originally from Australia, but has played in India, and therefore is accustomed to the fastest kind of polo. Indeed, there are others in the English stables that have had Indian experience, so that in a sense they may be counted as India's contribution to the representatives of the empire in a far off land. The four footed international representatives this time would be worth a journey many miles further than Meadow Brook to witness in action.